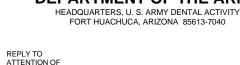
#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**



DSBJ-CDR (100)

7 October 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DENTAC PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Dental Activity (DENTAC) Policy Memorandum #00-01 -- Prophylaxis Technician Training and Certification Program for Military and Civilian Dental Assistants

1. **PURPOSE**. To outline the policy and procedures for the certification of military and civilian dental assistants to perform as Prophylaxis Technicians (Prophy Techs).

#### 2. POLICY.

- a. In accordance with (IAW) Army Regulation 40-68, neither the requirement nor procedure for categorical credentialing of Non-Dentist Health Care Providers (HCP) no longer exists. Instead, DENTAC will use the procedures described in this certification program to authorize dental assistants to function as Prophylaxis Technicians.
- b. All HCPs performing direct patient care will perform only under the supervision of a dentist and will have their job performance monitored continually and formally evaluated by the dentist-supervisor. Such evaluation will normally be part of the performance appraisal for civilian HCPs.
- 3. PROCEDURE FOR MILITARY AND CIVILIAN DENTAL ASSISTANTS CERTIFICATION AS PROPHYLAXIS TECHNICIANS.
- a. The intent of the Prophy Tech program is outlined in annex A.
- b. To become certified as a Prophy Tech, candidates must successfully complete the didactic and clinical course of instruction described in annex B. The Clinic OIC is responsible for the initial development, updating, and selection of certifying instructor for the 15 didactic lesson plan modules (annex B).

DSBJ-CDR

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- c. When a candidate has successfully completed all the training and education requirements, the checklist (annex B) will be forwarded through command channels, the Credentials Committee, and to the DENTAC Commander for final approval.
- d. After approval by the DENTAC Commander, the Clinic OIC will complete the Certification Form (annex C) and forward a copy of the completed form to the QI Coordinator for filing and preparation of the certificate for training (annex D). After certificate presentation, the certified Prophy Tech may begin to perform the authorized procedures.
- e. Newly arrived dental assistants who have completed a similar Prophy Tech certification program may present documentation of this experience to the Credentials Committee, IAW para 3c above.

HARLAND G. LEWIS, JR. Colonel, Dental Corps Commanding

## MILITARY AND CIVILIAN DENTAL ASSISTANT PROPHY TECH PROGRAM

**OVERVIEW:** Dental prophylaxis and patient education are the cornerstones of Army's Preventive Dentistry Program. Soldiers with good oral hygiene have fewer sick call needs and enhance their unit's readiness.

**OBJECTIVE:** To expand available hygiene care by training 91Es and civilian dental assistants in supragingival scaling and dental prophylaxis.

GOAL: Train 91Es and civilian dental assistants to--

- --perform dental prophylaxis
- --remove supragingival calculus
- --educate patients in plaque control techniques
- --understand how important their job is in our preventive dental program

#### CRITERIA FOR 91E AND CIVILIAN DENTAL ASSISTANTS PROPHY:

No subgingival calculus observed on clinical or x-ray exam.

PSR with only 0, 1 or 2 (no 3 or 4s).

Exam DDS states "prophy 1" in treatment plan on 603 during annual check-up.

# EDUCATION AND TRAINING CHECKLIST FOR THE

### DENTAL ASSISTANTS PROPHY TECH CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

CANDIDATE					
DATE COMPLETED				_	
I. DIDACTIC	SUBJECT		DATE		SIGNATURE
Lecture A	PSR Program Oral Anatom Patient Rel Dental Emer Medical His	y ations gencies		- - - -	
Lecture B	Oral Pathol Prophy set- Tobacco cou Instrument Infection C HAZCOM	up nseling sharpening			
Lecture C	Records/603 Periodontal Nutrition Fluoride			- - -	
II. CLINICAL (	10 CASES M	INIMUM)			DENTIST
PATIENT'S I	NAME	SSN	I	DATE	INITIALS
Upon completion of channels to the Ca	redentials C <b>C</b> E		checkl:	ist t	hrough command

DENTAL ASSISTANTS PROPHY TECH CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

CANDIDATE \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED

Clinic OIC

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED

DENTAC Commander

APPROVED/DISAPPROVED

COPY FURNISHED:
Program Director
Credentials Committee
Training NCO
Individual

## PROPHY TECH CERTIFICATION FORM

NAME:
QUALIFICATIONS: A dental assistant may obtain certification to do supra-gingival scaling and oral prophylaxis one of two ways: 1) through completion and certification from a training program approved by the Commander, DENTAC, or his designated representative, or 2) through completion and certification from a civilian training program. The Commander, DENTAC will have final approval for privileging of the dental assistant, based upon the recommendation of the Credentials Committee.
TREATMENT ALLOWED: May perform the following procedures:
Procedure Code: 01110 Prophy w/o fluoride application 01205 Prophy w/fluoride application(adults only) 01320 Tobacco counseling 01330 Oral hygiene instruction
SUPERVISION: All treatment will be performed under the supervision of a dentist. A dentist or registered dental hygienist may provide guidance on proper techniques. All procedures will be credited on a dentist's Daily Dental Worksheet.
PRIMARY SUPERVISOR:Team Leader
ALTERNATE SUPERVISOR: Any staff dentist
I understand that I am limited to the above procedures and that all treatment I do must be under the direction and supervision of a dental officer.
Signature/Date
Clinic OIC/DATE